LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

compression means for combining and compressing a plurality of ~~data~~ individual programs that each include a same instruction set to output compressed program data;

first generation means for generating and outputting first auxiliary data ~~about said plurality of data~~ including a total number of individual programs combined and compressed by the compression means and a size of each individual program combined and compressed by the compression means; ~~and~~

encryption means operatively connected with the compression means and the first generation means for encrypting said compressed program data ~~compressed by~~ received from said compression means together with said first auxiliary data ~~generated by~~ received from said first generation means to ~~obtain~~ output encrypted data.

Claims 2 and 3 (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

second generation means for generating second auxiliary data ~~about~~ indicating a size of said compressed program data; and

storage means operatively connected with the encryption means and the second generation means for storing said encrypted data received from the encryption means and said second auxiliary data ~~generated by~~ received from said second generation means.

3

Claim 5 (canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) An information processing method comprising:

a ~~compression step of~~ combining and compressing a plurality of <u>individual programs</u> <u>that each include a same instruction set to form compressed program</u> data:

a ~~generation step of~~ generating <u>first</u> auxiliary data ~~about said plurality of data~~ <u>including a total number of individual programs that have been combined and compressed</u> <u>and a size of each individual combined and compressed program</u>; ~~and~~

a ~~step of~~ encrypting said ~~data~~ compressed <u>data</u> ~~in said compression step~~ together with said <u>first</u> auxiliary data ~~generated in said generation step~~ <u>to form encrypted data</u>.

7. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

decryption means for decrypting encrypted data <u>including a plurality of encrypted</u> <u>combined and compressed individual programs that each include a same instruction set and</u> <u>encrypted first auxiliary</u> data <u>indicating a total number of the individual programs that were</u> <u>combined and compressed and a size of each of the combined and compressed individual</u> <u>programs</u> to <u>output decrypted</u> ~~restore~~ compressed <u>program</u> data[[,]]~~in which a plurality of~~ ~~data are combined and compressed~~[[,]] and <u>decrypted</u> auxiliary data ~~about said plurality of~~ ~~data~~ <u>indicating the total number of combined and compressed individual programs and the</u> <u>size of each of the combined and compressed individual programs</u>; ~~and~~

decompression means <u>operatively connected to the decryption means for receiving the</u> <u>decrypted compressed program data and</u> for decompressing said <u>decrypted</u> compressed program data <u>to output decompressed and combined individual programs</u>;

creation means operatively connected to the decryption means for receiving the decrypted first auxiliary data and for creating a management table about locations of individual ones of said plurality of individual programs based on said decrypted first auxiliary data; and

memory means operatively connected to receive the decompressed and combined individual programs from the decompression means and to receive the management table from the creation means and for storing the decompressed and combined individual programs and said management table.

Claims 8-10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) An information processing method, comprising:

~~a decryption step of~~ decrypting encrypted data including a plurality of encrypted combined and compressed individual programs that each include a same instruction set and encrypted first auxiliary data indicating a total number of combined and compressed individual programs and a size of each of the combined and compressed individual programs to output decrypted compressed program data including the plurality of combined and ~~restore~~ compressed individual programs ~~data, in which a plurality of data are combined and compressed,~~ and decrypted first auxiliary data ~~about said plurality of data~~ indicating the total number of combined and compressed individual programs and the size of each of the combined and compressed individual programs; ~~and~~

~~a decompression step of~~ decompressing said decrypted compressed program data to output decompressed and combined individual programs;

creating a management table about locations of individual ones of said plurality of individual programs based on said decrypted first auxiliary data; and

storing the decompressed and combined individual programs and said management table.

12. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

compression means for combining and compressing a plurality of ~~data~~ individual programs that each include a same instruction set to output compressed program data;

first generation means for generating and outputting first auxiliary data ~~about said plurality of data~~ including a total number of individual programs combined and compressed by the compression means and a size of each individual program combined and compressed by the compression means;

encryption means operatively connected to the compressing means and the first generation means for encrypting said compressed program data ~~compressed by~~ received from said compression means together with said first auxiliary data ~~generated by~~ received from said first generation means to form encrypted data;

second generation means for generating second auxiliary data ~~about~~ indicating a size of said compressed program data;

storage means operatively connected to the encryption means and the second generation means for storing said encrypted data received from said encryption means and said second auxiliary data received from said second generation means;

decryption means operatively connected with the storage means for decrypting said encrypted data stored in said storage means to restore said compressed program data and said first auxiliary data;

decompression means <u>operatively connected with the decryption means</u> for decompressing said <u>restored</u> compressed <u>program</u> data <u>received from said decryption means</u> <u>and outputting said decompressed program data as said plurality of combined individual</u> <u>programs;</u>

selection means <u>operatively connected with the decompression means</u> for selecting <u>a</u> predetermined ~~data~~ <u>one of the plurality of combined individual programs</u> from said plurality of <u>combined individual programs received as said decompressed program</u> data <u>from</u> ~~decompressed by~~ said decompression means; and

execution means <u>for receiving and</u> executing said predetermined ~~data~~ <u>one of the</u> <u>plurality of combined individual programs</u> ~~selected by said selection means~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

creation means for creating a management table about locations of said plurality of ~~data~~ <u>combined individual programs</u> based on said second auxiliary data; and

memory means <u>operatively connected to the decompression means and the creation</u> <u>means</u> for storing said plurality of ~~data~~ <u>of combined individual programs</u> ~~decompressed by~~ <u>received from</u> said decompression means and said management table ~~created by~~ <u>received</u> <u>from</u> said creation means.

14. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said execution means executes processing of said predetermined ~~data~~ <u>one of the</u> <u>plurality of combined individual programs</u> based on said management table stored in said memory means.

15. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising communication means ~~operatively connected to the decryption means~~ ~~and the decompression means~~ for instructing the initiation of a decryption process by said decryption means and a decompression process by said decompression means, and for notifying the termination of said decryption and decompression processes.

Claims 16 and 17 (Canceled).

18. (Currently Amended) An information processing method comprising:

~~a compression step of~~ combining and compressing a plurality of ~~data~~ individual programs that each contain a same instruction set to output compressed program data;

~~a first generation step of~~ generating first auxiliary data ~~about said plurality of data~~ including a total number of individual programs that have been combined and compressed and a size of each combined and compressed individual program;

~~an encryption step of~~ encrypting said compressed program data ~~compressed in said~~ ~~compression step~~ together with said first auxiliary data ~~generated in said first generation step~~ to form encrypted data;

~~a second generation step of~~ generating second auxiliary data ~~about~~ indicating a size of said compressed program data;

~~a storage step of~~ storing said encrypted data and said second auxiliary data in a data store;

~~a decryption step of~~ accessing said encrypted data from said data store and decrypting said accessed encrypted data ~~stored in said storage step~~ to restore said compressed program data and said first auxiliary data;

a decompression step of decompressing said <u>restored</u> compressed <u>program</u> data <u>and</u> <u>outputting decompressed program data as said plurality of combined individual programs</u>;

a selection step of selecting <u>a</u> predetermined ~~data~~ <u>one of the plurality of combined</u> <u>individual programs</u> from said plurality of <u>combined individual programs forming said</u> <u>decompressed program</u> data ~~decompressed in said decompression step~~; and

an execution step of executing said predetermined ~~data~~ <u>one of the plurality of</u> <u>combined individual programs</u> ~~selected in said selection step~~.

19. (New) The information processing method according to claim 6, further comprising:

generating second auxiliary data indicating a size of said compressed program data; and

storing said encrypted data and said second auxiliary data.

20. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising:

creating a management table about locations of said plurality of combined individual programs based on said second auxiliary data; and

storing said plurality of said combined individual programs and said management table in a data store.